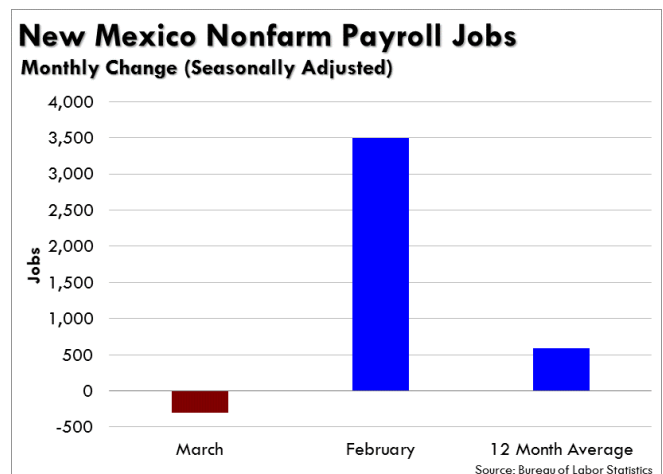
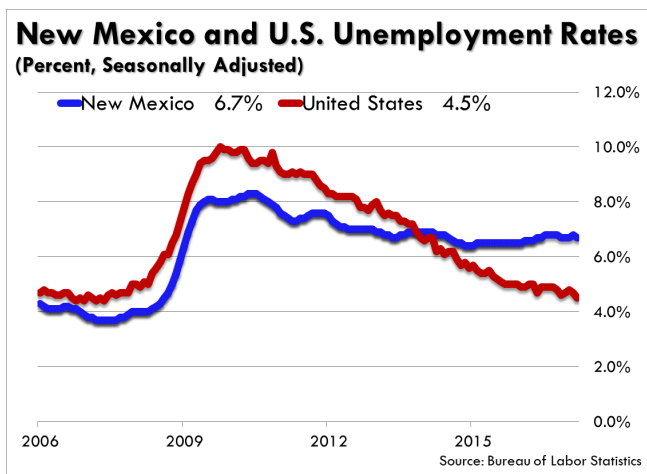


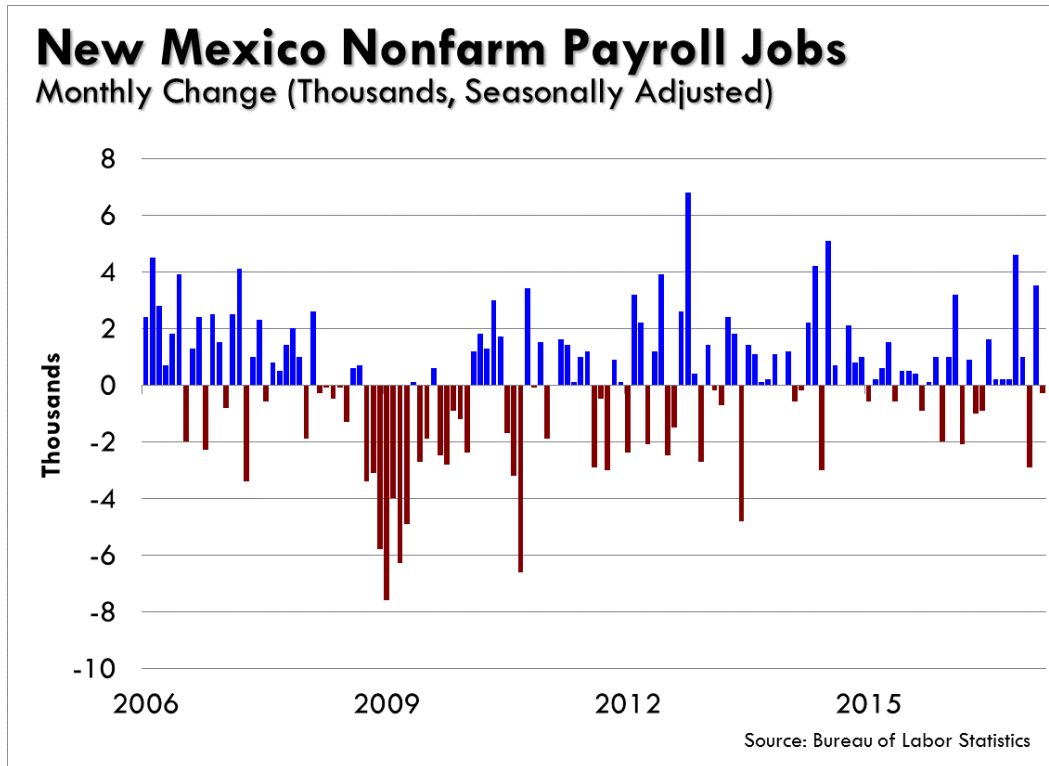


April 23, 2017

Summary

- **New Mexico lost 300 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 6.7 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, New Mexico added 7,100 jobs** and the unemployment rate rose by 0.1 percentage point from 6.6 percent.
- **In March, New Mexico's private sector payrolls remain unchanged** and over the past twelve months it created 7,300 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed New Mexicans fell by 145 in March**, and over the past year 6,900 New Mexicans found jobs.
- New Mexico's **labor force participation rate increased to 58 percent** from 57.8 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.5 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





New Mexico Payroll Employment

New Mexico lost 300 jobs, or 0.04 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, New Mexico added 3,500 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in New Mexico increased by 7,100, or 0.86 percent. New Mexico nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

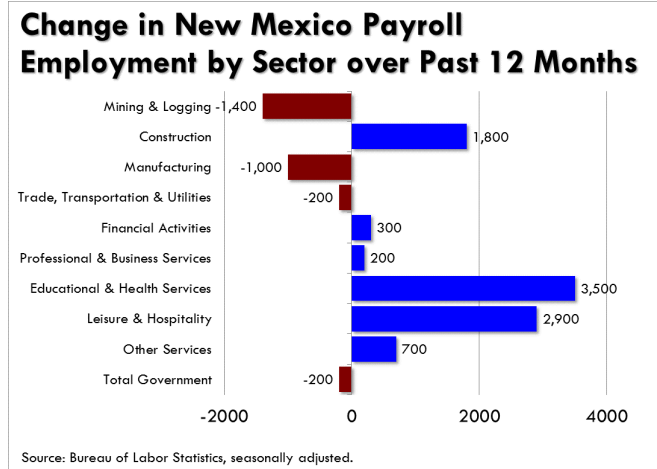
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12-month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. New Mexico ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During March, New Mexico's private-sector was unchanged. The private-sector in New Mexico added 1,400 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in New Mexico increased by 7,300, or 1.14 percent. New Mexico private-sector payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. New Mexico ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Construction (+1,500), Financial Activities (+400), and Educational & Health Services (+400). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Professional & Business Services (-1,400) and Leisure & Hospitality (-500).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Educational & Health Services (+3,500) and Leisure & Hospitality (+2,900). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Mining & Logging (-1,400) and Manufacturing (-1,000).



New Mexico Labor Force Statistics

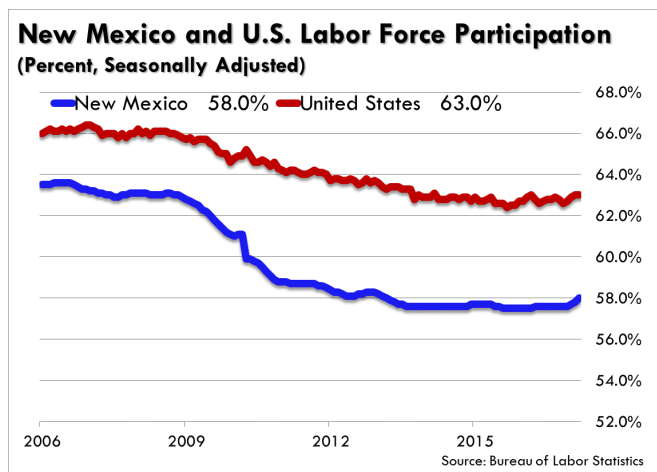
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in New Mexico rose to 58.0 percent in March from 57.8 percent the prior month. At 58.0 percent, New Mexico has one of the five lowest labor force participation rates in the nation. The labor force participation rate in New Mexico is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in New Mexico was 63.1 percent in September 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in New Mexico occurred in July 1990 when the labor force participation rate hit 64.1 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 57.5 percent in March 2016. This also represents the series low for the labor force participation rate in New Mexico. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the New Mexico civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 54.0 percent in March from 53.9 percent the prior month. At 54.0 percent, New Mexico has one of the five lowest employment-to-population



ratios in the nation. The employment-to-population ratio in New Mexico is 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in New Mexico was 60.7 percent in June 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in New Mexico occurred in June 2006 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 61.0 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 53.6 percent in April 2014. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in May 2014 when the employment-to-population ratio was 53.6 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

